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CITY AND COUNTY OF LICHFIELD
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ANNUAL REPORTS
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of the
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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
=====

and of the
=====

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
=====

1972
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C I T Y A N D C O U N T Y O F L I C H F I E L D

H E A L T H C O M M I T T E E

Chairman

Alderman B.A. Garman

Vice-Chairman

Councillor D.A. Badenoch

Alderman	C.W. Bridgeman	Councillor Mrs. A.G. Millard
Councillor	R.H. Blewitt	Councillor J.C. Silverthorne
Councillor	E.D. Godfrey	Councillor J.A. Gough
Councillor	E.J. Ashley	Councillor Mrs. M.A. Halfpenny
	Councillor J.G. Bazeley	

Medical Officer of Health

C.E. Jamison, B.A., M.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

J.T. Thompson, D.M.A., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector

R.S. Spurrier, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerks

Mrs. J. Prescott
(resigned 24th March, 1972)

Mrs. E.M. Kennedy
(appointed 20th March, 1972)

Miss B. Standring

Mrs. G. Miller (Part-time)

Rodent Operative

Mr. E. Mountford (Part-time)

CITY AND COUNTY OF LICHFIELD

ANNUAL REPORT

- of -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
The City and County of Lichfield

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The time has come round again for me to present my annual report, as required by the Public Health Officers' Regulations, 1959, on the "sanitary circumstances, sanitary administration and vital statistics of the area". This I have much pleasure in now doing.

As fairly full details are included in the text, under the various headings, I do not propose to attempt to summarise the report in this introduction, apart from saying that the circumstances reported on were, in general, satisfactory.

As regards staffing of the Department, I would only mention that, apart from the changes in clerical staff indicated in the text, inability to appoint an additional inspector limited, to a marked degree, the amount of routine work on inspections and on development of the agreed smoke control programme which could be carried out.

I again take this opportunity of thanking members and other officers of this Council, for their continued co-operation and support, and would particularly thank the many contributors to the information contained in this report.

Guildhall,
November, 1973.

C.E. Jamison,
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

The figures given below show the area of the District, the estimated population, the number of occupied houses, the total rateable value of properties of all types, and the product of a penny rate:-

Area (in acres)	3,597
Population (as estimated by the Registrar-General)	23,180
Number of inhabited houses	7,535
Total rateable value of property	£982,537
Product of one penny rate	£9,200

It may be noted that the figure for population shows a moderate increase on the estimated figure for the previous year and also on the census figure for that year, which was slightly lower than the estimated figure.

The number of inhabited houses shows a quite considerable increase as compared with the previous year, due to houses on various housing estates coming to the point of completion in larger numbers in the year being reported on than in any other recent year. In this context, it may be noted that the rate of increase in population in Lichfield during the period 1961 - 1971, as indicated in the recently announced census figures, at 61%, was second only in Staffordshire local authorities, whether county boroughs or county districts, to Rugeley Urban District, with 71%, and followed by Tamworth Borough with 58%.

The total rateable value of all properties and the product of a penny rate showed the same steady increases customary in other recent years, providing the financial basis for the increased services required by the larger population.

VITAL STATISTICS

The following figures show the principal statistics relating to births and deaths in Lichfield, during 1972, as derived from information supplied by the Registrar-General:-

<u>Live Births:</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	186	159	345
Illegitimate	11	11	22
<u>Totals</u>	<u>197</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>367</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Live or Still Births = 18.9

<u>Still Births:</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	2	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Totals</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>

Still Births Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births = 16

<u>Deaths in Infants</u> <u>under One Week:</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Totals</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births = 16

<u>Deaths in Infants</u> <u>under Four Weeks:</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Totals</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births = 16

<u>Deaths in Infants</u> <u>under One Year:</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	2	7
Illegitimate	-	-	-
<u>Totals</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births = 19

<u>Deaths (All Ages)</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	107	108	215

Mortality Rate (All Ages) per 1,000 Population = 9.3

It will be seen that, as in both 1970 and 1971, no still-birth occurred in an illegitimate foetus and no death in an illegitimate infant. Comparison of incidence, therefore, does not arise.

It may be noted that 6% of all live births were illegitimate, the same figure as in 1971. This figure compares with one of 9% for England and Wales as a whole.

YEAR	Estimated Population	Live Birth Rate	Still Birth Rate	Neonatal Death Rate	Infant Death	Death Rate (All Ages)
1957	11,190	20.1	26	26	26	11.6
1958	11,510	21.4	39	12	24	12.4
1959	12,180	17.6	13	9	18	12.7
1960	12,840	22.0	20	10	24	14.2
1961	14,240	21.8	40	12	12	12.6
1962	15,350	20.0	19	12	19	9.5
1963	16,490	24.4	17	10	12	10.4
1964	18,130	24.4	15	11	27	9.9
1965	20,030	26.6	9	3	9	10.2
1966	21,130	24.6	22	9	21	10.1
1967	22,100	23.9	15	7	11	7.8
1968	22,680	24.1	9	11	14	9.6
1969	22,930	20.0	25	13	13	9.6
1970	23,190	20.7	20	2	6	9.2
1971	22,920	18.9	11	9	14	8.7
1972	23,180	15.8	16	16	19	9.3

It will be seen that the live birth rate followed the trend of the previous year and was, in fact, lower than that in any other year covered by the table.

The various death rates were, unfortunately, higher than in other recent years, but it should be recorded, in this connection, that some of the recent figures were quite exceptionally favourable. It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that the marked fluctuation in these figures is largely due to the disproportionate effect, one way or the other, of small variations in very small figures.

After adjusting the local figures for births and deaths, in accordance with the factors provided by the Registrar-General, to take account of variations in age and sex of the population in Lichfield as compared with that of England and Wales as a whole, the following table shows the comparison between the local and national figures:-

Area	Live Birth Rate	Still Birth Rate	Early Neonatal Death Rate	Perinatal Death Rate	Neonatal Death Rate	Infant Death Rate	Death Rate (All ages)
Lichfield City	14.1	16	16	37	16	19	10.7
England and Wales	14.8	12	10	22	12	17	12.1

As will be seen, the birth rate after adjustment was, unlike other recent years, lower than that for England and Wales as a whole. This may possibly be regarded as a local return to more normal circumstances, following the abnormally high birth rate associated in other recent years with the occupation of new privately owned houses, bought by those doing so in order to start families.

Death rates, apart from that relating to deaths at all ages, compared, on this occasion, unfavourably with the national figures. As the figures for the immediately preceding years were markedly better than the national ones, too great significance need not be attached to the less satisfactory comparison in this one year, the considerable variation being almost certainly due to the factor relating to figures for a small population, referred to in an earlier paragraph.

The following table shows the causes of death of persons, ordinarily resident in Lichfield, who died during the year, regardless of where the death actually occurred:-

Cause of Death	SEX	All Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks to 1 Year	Age in Years								
					$\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{5}{15}$	$\frac{15}{25}$	$\frac{25}{35}$	$\frac{35}{45}$	$\frac{45}{55}$	$\frac{55}{65}$	$\frac{65}{75}$	75 +
Late Effects of Respiratory Tuberculosis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Syphilis and its sequelae	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Leukaemia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1

Cause of Death	S E X	All Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks to 1 Year	Age in Years								
					<u>1</u> 5	<u>5</u> 15	<u>15</u> 25	<u>25</u> 35	<u>35</u> 45	<u>45</u> 55	<u>55</u> 65	<u>65</u> 75	+
Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	1
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	1
Diabetes Mellitus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Meningitis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multiple Sclerosis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Other Diseases of the Nervous System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Hypertensive Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	6	9	12
	F	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	18
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	4	5
	F	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	14
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3
	F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6
Pneumonia	M	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	4
	F	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	9
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	2
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Peptic Ulcer	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cirrhosis of the Liver	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases of the Digestive System	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Congenital Anomalies	M	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc.	M	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
All Other Accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
TOTAL (ALL CAUSES)	M	107	5	-	1	-	3	2	4	5	14	33	40
	F	108	1	1	-	1	1	1	3	6	6	20	68

Taking the deaths as a whole, it may be noted that six occurred at ages under four weeks, one between four weeks and one year, one between one year and five years, one between five years and fifteen years, four between 15 years and 25 years, three between 25 years and 35 years, seven between 35 years and 45 years, 11 between 45 years and 55 years, 20 between 55 years and 65 years, 53 between 65 years and 75 years, and the remaining 108 at ages over 75 years.

It may be added that 161 out of a total of 215 deaths, or 75%, occurred at ages over 65 years. This compares with a figure of 73% in 1971.

Once again, it is noteworthy that male deaths exceeded female deaths in almost all age groups up to 75 years, markedly in the last two decades, and that 67 out of 107 male deaths occurred before 75 years of age, as compared with only 40 female deaths out of 108 in the same age group, a truly remarkable discrepancy.

Of the six deaths occurring at under four weeks, it may be noted that, as recorded in an earlier table, all six actually occurred in the first week of life, still the most vulnerable of all periods in life. Five of these six births were premature, two of them extremely so, while the sixth death occurred in an infant with a congenital abnormality of the heart.

It may be noted that, of the deaths in older infants and children, one was due to meningitis, now, fortunately, a rather rare cause of death in childhood, one to a very severe congenital abnormality, and the third to complications following the inhalation of a peanut.

The death from late effects of pulmonary tuberculosis occurred in a patient with severe and irreversible damage to her lungs caused by an infection occurring a number of years before.

Cancers in their various types, were responsible for 34 out of a total of 215 deaths, as compared with 37 out of 200 in the previous year. It may be noted that cancers of stomach, intestine and respiratory tract, were each involved in five of these deaths, with the usual male predominance in the case of those affecting lung and bronchus, while cancers of the breast and uterus were responsible for only three deaths between them.

If the picture in relation to the cancers was better than in the previous year, that relating to diseases of the heart and circulatory system was worse, these types of disease accounting for no less than 116 deaths, as against 104 in 1971, with ischaemic heart disease, commonly known as coronary thrombosis, standing out as the main killer. Fortunately, the vast majority of the deaths were in the elderly and very elderly, but it will be seen that a very significant minority occurred at ages under 65 years, and that it is the disparity between the sexes in this age-group, and in this group of diseases, which is the main cause of the lesser longevity of the male, referred to in an earlier paragraph. It is interesting to wonder how much of the disparity is caused by different hormones, how much by different modes of life, how much by different diet, how much by differences in smoking habits and how much may be due to some other factor that cannot, as yet, be guessed at.

Although pneumonia accounted for a relatively large number of deaths, it is obvious that this cause of death was more significant as a terminal event in the elderly than in any other way.

The same can be said in the case of bronchitis and emphysema although, in this case, the disparity in incidence in the sexes is a notable characteristic, usually attributed to differences in smoking habits in the sexes, over many years.

Deaths resulting from motor vehicle accidents were slightly more numerous than in the previous year, but well below the average for the five years preceding 1971. It may be significant, as indicative of vulnerability, that two of the four deaths occurred in youths of 17 years, while the remaining deaths involved a man of 82 years and a woman of 77 years.

Accidental deaths not related to motor vehicles were less numerous than in the previous year, and also less numerous than the average of the preceding five years. One of these deaths, due to the inhalation of a peanut, has been referred to in an earlier paragraph. The other death, occurring in an elderly female, was due to complications following a fracture of a thigh bone.

On the negative side, it is satisfactory to note that no death, during the year, was attributable to either suicide or causes associated with pregnancy, abortion or childbirth.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases of notifiable diseases notified during 1972, with figures for the preceding ten years set out for comparison:-

DISEASE	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Measles	3	425	315	70	137	388	413	8	23	82	384
Whooping Cough	-	19	16	-	3	6	4	-	11	21	2
Scarlet Fever	2	8	7	10	7	6	5	5	37	1	4
Dysentery	22	-	5	7	44	24	-	-	-	3	-
Food Poisoning	1	13	-	2	3	7	7	-	-	1	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	-	-	8	6	1	-	-	-	1
Infective Jaundice	... NOT NOTIFIABLE.....						-	-	8	2	1
Acute Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4
Tuberculosis	1	2	1	2	4	4	2	1	2	3	1

The number of cases of measles was much larger than in any year since 1968, and does not appear to have been significantly affected by the vaccination programme, still in its early stages prior to the beginning of 1972. There appears to be good reason to believe that most of the cases occurred in unimmunised children. I feel confident that the considerable work in immunisation, now being carried out in local surgeries, clinics and schools, will have an increasing effect in future years.

The figures for whooping cough were very low indeed, and give continuing evidence of the satisfactory results obtained by immunisation against this disease, a very serious illness in childhood in quite recent times.

Cases of scarlet fever were again few in number, and involved only two families. The figures again show that this disease can be satisfactorily controlled without recourse either to immunisation or admission of patients to hospital.

No cases of dysentery were notified during the year, thus continuing the favourable trend shown in other recent years. As the disease is still relatively prevalent in the country as a whole, it would probably be unduly optimistic to suppose that the same satisfactory picture will be reported in all future years.

It will be seen that the number of cases of food poisoning was slightly larger than in the previous year. Three of the four cases were sporadic in type, with only one case occurring in the affected household. The fourth case, although also the only one in the household, was part of a larger outbreak in a neighbouring area. In two cases the illness was due to salmonella organisms while in the remaining two patients, diagnosed on clinical grounds, no organism could be isolated from the stool. One patient continued to carry organisms in the stool for a considerable period of time, necessitating precautions within the home. Only one patient needed to be regarded as a professional food-handler. Fortunately, this patient was one of those in whom no organism could be isolated, thus obviating any problem in relation to early return to work.

The incidence of infective jaundice compared very favourably with other recent years. Although the one notified case occurred in a school child, no further case was reported from his, or any other, school.

The four cases of meningitis notified showed a higher incidence of this disease than in other years, but the comparison is not really valid, as some of the infections notified in 1972, would not have been notifiable in relation to regulations applying in earlier years. Three of the infections occurred in children, two of these being babies. Unfortunately, the adult and one of the children succumbed to the infection. All the infections were sporadic ones, occurring in different parts of Lichfield, and due to different organisms. No epidemiological problems were involved in any of the infections.

It will be seen that only one case of tuberculosis was notified during the year. This was, as is now usually the case, of the pulmonary type. The origin of the infection could not be determined, the task of discovering this being rendered more difficult by the numerous contacts. Investigation of close contacts proved to be negative, but the usual surveillance was, of course, instituted.

One death from late effects of pulmonary tuberculosis, has been referred to in an earlier paragraph.

The following table shows how the figures for tuberculosis in 1972, compare with those for other years in the post-war period:-

YEAR	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1948	6	7	2	-	2	3	-	-
1949	3	3	3	3	3	-	-	-
1950	1	3	3	1	-	-	-	-
1951	1	3	3	1	-	1	1	-
1952	5	1	-	4	2	1	-	-
1953	2	1	1	1	-	1	-	-
1954	4	2	1	-	-	-	-	1
1955	3	4	1	-	-	-	1	-
1956	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
1957	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1958	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1959	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
1960	1	1	1	1	2	1	-	-
1961	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
1962	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
1963	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
1964	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1965	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
1966	2	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
1967	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
1968	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
1969	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1970	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
1971	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
1972	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

The vast improvement in incidence, due to use of modern drugs and other factors, is clearly evident.

Arrangements for diagnosis, treatment, supervision of patients and surveillance of contacts remained, broadly, as in other recent years.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

Availability of hospital beds in the various categories with public health significance appeared reasonably adequate in relation to real social need, although insufficient to meet the full demand in the maternity and geriatric fields. It is interesting to note that, although the number of beds allocated to treatment of infectious diseases, including tuberculosis, is only a fraction of that obtaining in the early post-war period, it is, nevertheless, quite adequate to cope with the very much reduced demand, due to lessened incidence and improved methods of treatment within the home.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

I have been able in other recent years to indicate that no action had proved necessary, during the year, to secure compulsory admission of any patient to hospital. Unfortunately, such action had to be taken, with much reluctance, on one occasion in 1972, owing to a combination of factors within the home of an elderly person which gave evidence of significant danger to the health, and even the life, of the person in question. No further action was necessary, after expiry of the period covered by the Magistrates' Order, to secure retention of the patient in hospital.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

These facilities continued to function on the same basis as discussed in previous reports, and proved quite satisfactory.

IMMUNISATION OF STAFF AGAINST INFLUENZA

Immunisation against influenza was, as in the previous year, offered to all staff, including manual workers, on a voluntary basis. The response was quite good. Comparison of absences from work due to respiratory infection, in the winter months, suggested that the inoculation did, in fact, give a reasonable degree of protection.

WATER SUPPLY

I am again indebted to Mr. J. Lamont, the Engineer-in-Chief to the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, for the following report on water supplied in Lichfield, during 1972:-

"The supply of water to the City of Lichfield has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Chlorination is practised at most of the pumping stations, but this is largely precautionary. In cases of possible contamination following burst or damaged pipes, emptying reservoirs, etc., emergency chlorination of the affected fittings or structure, is carried out, and special apparatus and staff are available for the purpose. New mains are not brought into use until the water has been examined and found satisfactory.

There are no houses supplied by means of standpipes in the area. At the 31st. December, 1972, 7,290 houses were supplied with water direct from the Company's distribution system, with an estimated population of 3.05 persons per house.

Regular monthly samples are examined from 176, Beacon Street, Pool House, Dam Street, and the Reducing Valve in St. John Street. Analyses from these locations are forwarded each month. The naturally occurring fluoride content in each case was 0.11 mg/l.

The supply to the area is derived from Sandfields and Seedy Mill Treatment works, and Trent Valley Pumping Station. Regular and frequent samples are examined from these works, both bacteriologically and chemically.

During 1972, 784 samples of treated water going into supply, were all free from coliform bacteria.

154 samples of water from Trent Valley Pumping Station, 12 samples from Beacon Street, 13 from Dam Street, and 12 from St. John Street, were all free from coliform bacteria.

The waters are not liable to plumbo-solvency, all 37 tap samples being free from any significant amount of lead."

As in previous years, it will be noted that the fluoride content of the water supplied, at 0.11 parts per million, was well below the figure of 1.0 part per million recognised as necessary for the formation of healthy and durable teeth. At the time of writing this report, it is clear that, owing to continued opposition in certain parts of the Company's supply area, to action to remedy this deficiency, this will continue in the immediately foreseeable future with detrimental effects to the dental health of local children.

FOOD

Information relating to inspection of food premises, investigation of food complaints, and other relevant matters, will again be found in the Chief Public Health Inspector's section of the report.

The following information has been received from the County Medical Officer, in relation to samples of milk collected in Lichfield:-

Place of Collection	Results of Examination					
	Pasteurised				Sterilised	
	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test	
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Streets	45	-	45	-	3	-
Schools	13	-	13	-	-	-
Hospitals, Homes, SCC Premises, Private Schools, etc.	52	-	52	-	-	-

It will be seen that, on this occasion, all results were satisfactory. In the case of the methylene blue test, for cleanliness, the result compares with 5 unsatisfactory tests out of 97 in the previous year, a very notable improvement. The results also demonstrate, as on previous occasions, the efficiency of the various types of heat treatment now in use.

HOUSING

The Housing Manager has again been kind enough to supply me with the following figures relating to applicants for housing accommodation, and re-housings effected during the year:-

Waiting List (excluding overspill) at 1st. January, 1972	= 191
Applicants re-housed on family needs in 1972	= 235
Applicants re-housed from unfit houses in 1972	= 9
Applicants re-housed under overspill arrangements in 1972	= 13
Waiting List (excluding overspill) at 31st. October, 1972	= 264

As will be seen, only a small number of tenants were re-housed from unfit houses, the figure of nine in 1972 comparing with figures of 10 in 1971, 17 in 1970, 31 in 1969 and 33 in 1968. The smallness of the figure was, of course, mainly due to the fact that, for various reasons, relatively little statutory action for clearance of unfit houses had been initiated in the previous year.

The same was largely true in 1972, when statutory action was taken in relation to one house in Queen Street, two houses in Beacon Street, two in George Lane, two in Stowe Street, one in St. John Street and one in Sandfields.

The difficulties experienced in the previous year in relation to the improvement of unfit houses in Beacon Street to avoid, if at all possible, the clearance of these houses, continued through 1972. It would appear, however, at the time of writing this report, that these difficulties may be resolved, at least in relation to a number of the houses, in the current year.

I mentioned in my report for 1971, that a further survey was being carried out, at the time of writing the report, at the request of the Department of the Environment, to determine what further action will be required during the period up to 1980 to complete the clearance of houses which are unfit and cannot be made fit for human habitation and also to modernise those houses not unfit but lacking in essential amenities, by the same date. This survey, conducted on a sampling basis, enabled an estimate to be made that 191 houses would need to be cleared and 749 houses improved, if the objective of dealing with all substandard property by 1980 were to be achieved. This objective was accepted by the Council, and the Department of the Environment was informed accordingly. Relatively little progress towards the objective was possible in the remaining months of the year now being reported on, due to staffing and other difficulties, which have continued up to the time of writing this report. It would appear probable that the programme will be considerably behind schedule when responsibility passes to the new District Council, assuming office on the 1st. April, 1974. It is to be hoped that it will be able to meet, and beat, the challenge with which it will be faced.

OTHER MATTERS

I am indebted to the City Engineer and Surveyor, for the following information on other matters under his administration, with a public health aspect:-

Public Conveniences

These have been maintained throughout the year.

A number of complaints have been received from visitors, but these have been due to a continual vandalism and the age of the buildings. The inspection and cleansing of these buildings is being investigated to see if conditions can be improved particularly at weekends.

A new block is to be built in Levetts Square to replace the old block in Market Square, which will disappear during the redevelopment of the City Institute.

Refuse Collection

The collection has operated satisfactorily. An extended service, issuing polythene bin liners, is to be carried out to improve hygiene and reduce costs.

The disposal of bulk items has increased and litter bodies in the area have been tipped, as a temporary measure, at the Rugeley Tip. This is due to contents not being acceptable at the Incinerator.

Refuse Disposal

The Incinerator at Burntwood has operated satisfactorily throughout the year, and has shown it is capable of dealing with a larger load than at present.

Sewerage

The improvement of the foul sewerage system has continued and work on the replacement of the main outfall is well advanced. Various minor works have been carried out to alleviate surcharging. Repairs and emergency blockage clearance have been carried out.

Sewage Disposal

The disposal works have operated satisfactorily, except in respect of sludge disposal. There have been delays in providing the sludge pressing plant, but this is due to be erected during this year.

Dried sludge has been distributed to farmers, but wet sludge is still a problem. Contractors have removed large quantities from the cold digestion tanks, to provide storage space. The average daily flow to the works was recorded at 417,915,100 gallons, and has increased due to the receipt of sewerage from Kings Bromley and Fradley.

A number of stream pollutions from storm sewers have been traced and action taken to prevent recurrence.

CITY AND COUNTY OF LICHFIELD

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
City and County of Lichfield.

It is my pleasure to report upon the work of the Public Health Inspectorate during the year 1972.

Pressure of work on various duties and, in particular, local government re-organisation, has resulted in my report being somewhat less detailed than usual. It does, nonetheless I hope, still do justice to the work carried out by the Department.

The most noticeable aspect of the Department's work is that complaints, enquiries and requests for assistance, are increasing. This has had a distinct and noticeable effect in reducing the number of routine inspections under food hygiene and safety, health and welfare legislation. It is hoped that the Public Health Department of the new District Council will be better placed to cope with the expanding workload resulting from constant demands for improvement of environmental health.

My sincere thanks are extended, once again, to the staff of the Department for their loyal service and to colleagues in other departments for their continued assistance and co-operation.

J.T. THOMPSON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Public Health Department,
Wade Street,

February, 1974.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

Food Complaints

73 food complaints were investigated during the year and a further 7 were passed on to the appropriate local authority for attention. This was again an increase on the previous year when 59 complaints were received. In 1970 there were 46 complaints and 32 in 1969. The fact that the number of complaints is doubling every 2/3 years, is a reflection of increasing public awareness of their rights to clean, wholesome and uncontaminated food.

Every complaint is carefully investigated with a view to advising, requiring, or compelling steps to be taken to prevent further similar complaints. In 10 cases, legal proceedings were instituted by the City Council, and fines and costs imposed amounted to £316; this compares with 17 cases in 1971 and fines of £428.

A brief summary of the types and nature of complaints is given below.

A. Foreign matter

36 of the complaints related to foreign matter in food. The origin of this foreign matter can probably be associated with the following sources:-

1. Some naturally occurring substance,
which is not acceptable in food when sold.
 - (i) Parasitic worm in a cod portion.
 - (ii) Fish skin in a fish finger
 - (iii) Struvite (glass-like crystals) in tinned salmon.
2. Extraneous matter gathered or collected with the food
 - (i) A thistle in frozen green beans
 - (ii) A live greenfly on lettuce in a bread roll
 - (iii) Aluminium silicate - probably pesticide base, on lettuce.
3. Extraneous matter introduced during storage,
preparation or manufacturing process of food.

Bread and flour confectionery, with 8 and 7 complaints respectively, were the most complained-about foods.

Foreign matter in bread, included:-

Metal from a dough-conveyor belt
A metal tag
Wholemeal bread in a white loaf
Oil (liquid paraffin divider oil)
Glass in bread
Bituminised paper
Hairs

In flour confectionery was found:-

A piece of brick in a Danish pastry
Hair in a biscuit
Wood in a lemon-curd bun
A lump of coconut oil, salt and fibre mass,
in a biscuit.

Other complaints included:-

An Indian meal-moth in self-raising flour
Ephestia (cocoa) moth in a chocolate bar
String in a cooked meal in a restaurant
Insects in tinned fruit salad
A bolt in a packet of breakfast cereal
A blow-fly in loose, frozen, mixed vegetables
Plastic film in a paracetamol tablet
Ferrous metal in cheese
Black particles in milk

4. Packing in unsuitable or unclean containers

There was only one complaint in this category, compared with seven last year.

Cement/sand in a milk bottle - s.2 (quality) £15 fine £8 costs.

B. Mouldy Food

Ten complaints related to mouldy food. In half the cases, legal proceedings were taken because of the obviously serious nature of the complaint, or the apparent negligence of the trader or his employees.

The foods affected, included:-

Austrian smoked cheese	s.2 : £10 fine and £15 costs
Pork pie	s.2 : £25 fine and £15 costs
Steak and kidney pie	s.2 : £20 fine and £10 costs
Madeira Cake	No legal action
Tinned chocolate baby pudding	No legal action
Cheese	No legal action (Case withdrawn)
Bread roll	s.2 : £10 fine and £10 costs
Cornish pasties	s.2 : £20 fine and £15 costs
Sausage rolls	No legal action

G. Unfit or poor quality food

In this group, 36 complaints were received, relating to a wide variety of food, including:-

Sour bread	s.2 : £10 fine and £10 costs
Fly eggs on sliced ham	s.2 : £25 fine and £15 costs
Burnt frozen cod steak in sealed wrapping	
Bruised Turkey	
Unfit fish fillets	
Bread contaminated with diesel oil	
Decomposed vacuum packed bacon joint	
Necrotic tissue in lambs' kidney	
Decomposed tinned fruit cocktail	

These complaints may be summarised as follows:-

<u>Nature of complaint</u>	<u>Home produce</u>		<u>Imported</u>	
Mouldy food	10	(12)*	0	(0)*
Otherwise unfit or of poor quality	27	(19)	0	(0)
Foreign matter in food	<u>34</u>	<u>(19)</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>(4)</u>
Totals:	71	(50)	2	(4)
	==	====	==	====

*1971 figures in brackets

Unsound food surrendered or condemned

The following food was certified as unfit for human consumption, during the year and a total of 34 visits were made for the surrender of food.

	Tons.	Cwts.	lbs.
Cooked meat and meat products	-	-	18
Canned meats	-	-	20
Other canned foods	-	-	10
Fish (fresh)	-	-	88
Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown	1.	16.	0
Other foods	-	1.	32
Fresh meat	-	6.	0
Total:	<u>2.</u>	<u>4.</u>	<u>56.</u>

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1970

FOOD HYGIENE (MARKET STALLS AND DELIVERY
VEHICLES) REGULATIONS, 1966

The principal food premises in the City are:-

Restaurants and Cafes	20
Hotels	8
Public Houses	27
Fried Fish Shops	2
Fruit and Vegetable shops	14
Clubs, Canteens and School Kitchens	37
Meat Shops	14
Fresh Fish shops	2

Visits made during the year, for food hygiene purposes, totalled 130. They were:-

Restaurant kitchens	30
Licensed premises	21
Bakehouses	1
Butchers	26
Fish shops	3
Other food premises	49
	<u>130</u>

In addition, 25 inspections of food vehicles were made.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

A summary of statistics relating to action under the Act, is given below.

(A) REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at the end of the year	Number of reg'd premises recvng general inspctn during the year
Offices	4	102	4
Retail Shops	5	193	10
Wholesale shops and Warehouses	1	4	-
Catering establishments open to the public; Canteens	1	55	10
Fuel Storage Depots	-	2	1
TOTALS	11	356	25
TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT			115

(B) ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

Section	Number of Contraventions found		Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	8	13	Sitting facilities	-
5	Overcrowding	1	14	Seats (Sedentary workers)	-
6	Temperature	5	15	Eating facilities	-
7	Ventilation	17	16	Floors, passages, and stairs	20
8	Lighting	4	17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery	3
9	Sanitary conveniences	10	18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	-
10	Washing facilities	14	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	-
11	Supply of drinking water	4	23	Prohibition of heavy work	-
12	Clothing accommodation	4	24	First Aid	5
				Other matters	36
				TOTAL	131

(C) EXEMPTIONS

No exemptions are currently in force, for premises in the City.

(D) PROSECUTIONS

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

(E) REPORTED ACCIDENTS

Only one accident was reported during the year and no formal action was justified in this respect.

HOUSING ACTS, 1957 - 1972

"SLUMS AND OLDER HOUSES - AN OVERALL STRATEGY"

During the year the Department of the Environment issued Circular 50/72, which set out a national objective of ensuring that within a decade no person will be living in an unfit or sub-standard dwelling, and that both Central Government and Local Authorities acting together, should plan to carry through a decisive drive on slums and older housing. For the purpose of ascertaining the local implications of the objective, it was necessary to carry out a sample survey by a public health inspector, on the lines recommended by the Department of the Environment. Details from the survey are given below.

ESTIMATES OF CONDITION OF
HOUSING STOCK IN MID-1972

	<u>Number of dwellings</u>	
	<u>Owned by Local Authority</u>	<u>Other Ownership</u>
<u>Unfit Dwellings</u>		
1. In areas already declared under Part III Housing Act, 1957	2	14
2. In other areas to be declared under Part III Housing Act, 1957	-	96
3. Not in Part III areas	15	64
4. Total of unfit dwellings (Items 1 plus 2 plus 3)	<u>17</u>	<u>174</u>
<u>Dwellings not unfit</u>		
5. Up to 12-point standard	2531	3520
6. Capable of improvement to 12-point standard	37	712
7. Not capable of improvement to 12-point standard	-	-
<u>Total dwellings in the area</u> (Items 4 plus 5 plus 6)	<u>2595</u>	<u>4406</u>

The 12-point standard is prescribed by the Secretary of State, and is the minimum standard normally required for houses improved with the aid of an improvement grant. The standard of fitness is defined in section 4 of the Housing Act, 1957. 168 houses, although technically unfit for human habitation, have been included in item 6 above, as houses capable of improvement to the 12-point standard. All of these appear to be capable of repair at reasonable cost.

In July 1973, the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, published details relating to the County of Staffordshire. An Abstract of the information relating to relevant housing matters is given below, together with comparative information from the 1961 Census. This information correlates very well with the survey carried out by the department.

Census	Total number of households	Exclusive use of all amenities	All lacking/sharing		
			Hot Water	Fixed bath or shower	Flush toilet inside/outside
1961	4,110	3,374	588	619	191
1971	6,950	6,540	195	278	83

Fulfilment of the strategy

To fulfil the objective of eliminating sub-standard houses by 1980, it appears that one hundred houses per year need to be brought up to standard. The significance of dealing with what is a relatively small number of properties, can be seen from the numbers of improvement grants which have been taken up during the period 1960 - 1972.

<u>Period</u>	<u>Improvement Grants</u>	<u>Standard Grants</u>	<u>Totals</u>
1960 - 1964	17	23	40
1965 - 1969	6	42	48
1970 - 1972	43	11	54

The Health Committee and, subsequently, the Council, adopted the objective as Council policy and, in order to increase the number of houses improved, agreed to circular letters being sent to areas which were potentially suitable for improvement, to be followed up by visits by public health inspectors, to promote and encourage improvement grant applications. Consideration will also be given to general improvement area procedure, where appropriate. No such areas have yet been declared in the City. It was also agreed that the inspector to be engaged on smoke control survey work, should take the opportunity to carry out surveys of premises to ascertain whether they are eligible for, or require, improvement grants, and that the appropriate follow-up procedure be adopted. Due to difficulties in recruiting an additional public health inspector, little progress has been made in this respect during 1972.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS AND QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES

During the year 50 improvement grants were approved. No standard grants were applied for. This work represents a marked upward trend in the take-up of improvement grants which is, no doubt, associated with the considerable publicity given to the scheme, the financial incentives offered and, to a lesser extent, the activities of the department. It has been the policy of the department for some time, to encourage wherever possible the take-up of improvement grants as opposed to standard grants, since the latter do not enable assistance to be given for either essential repairs or other desirable improvements to the premises.

<u>Qualification Certificates:</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Applications	13	10
	(including 3 combined)	(including 4 combined)
Issued	11	4
Provisional Certificates of Approval	4	5
Refusal of Certificates during the year ...	1	1

SLUM CLEARANCE

Whilst improvement grant work is characterised by a short, intense period of activity which results in the renovation of a property, slum clearance work is a slow, laborious process, spread over a long period of time. Slum Clearance is unsatisfactory insofar as there are social consequences resulting from the demolition of peoples' homes, deterioration in the appearance of areas due to the vacation of properties, and subsequent clearance of sites. Although an unavoidable aspect of housing policies and urban renewal, it will be pleasing when the present programme is completed. The present programme extends, for inspection purposes, to the year 1973, although there is every indication at the present time with the work load of the department, that there will be a considerable overrun of the programme. There are, unfortunately, relatively small numbers of properties not included in the programme, which will subsequently need to be dealt with.

At the end of the year, the situation as regards the programmed properties, was as follows:-

<u>Location:</u>	<u>No: of Properties:</u>	<u>Situation at end of 1972/comments:</u>
Stowe Street	2	Confirmed Clearance Order - awaiting vacation by re-housing and demolition of the properties.
Wade Street	11	Confirmed Clearance Order without modification following a Public Inquiry into objections. Properties in the process of being vacated. The properties to be demolished by August 1973.
Paradise Row	10	No official action initiated. Properties likely to be demolished at the request of the owners.

<u>Location:</u>	<u>No. of Properties:</u>	<u>Situation at end of 1972/comments:</u>
Beacon Street	16	The Council are in the process of acquisition of a number of the properties in this street, for the purpose of renovation and improvement. Several other properties are due to be renovated by the owners. Certain properties will be demolished and, in respect of others, no progress has been made.
George Lane	27	Demolition Orders have been made on three properties. The Order is likely to be rescinded to enable extensive improvement grant-aided works of repair and renovation to be carried out. The Council have purchased 19 properties for the purpose of demolition and clearance of the site, to enable development by a Housing Association.
St. John Street	9	A Closing Order has been made on one property and the others are awaiting inspection.
Other individual properties	7	Awaiting inspection.

A further thirteen properties, not originally included in the programme, will possibly be demolished as not capable of repair or suitable for improvement.

In respect of a small number of council-owned properties, which are programmed, a few have been agreed as appropriate for immediate vacation and demolition because they are not suitable for continued occupation in their present condition, and other properties have been deferred for consideration as to their future until 1974.

CLEAN AIR ACTS, 1956 - 1968

Industrial Pollution

It is necessary to report again that fume emissions from a foundry still occur, which give rise to complaints from residents in the neighbourhood. Searching investigations have been carried out during this year, with a view to securing a resolution of the problem.

Emissions of dark smoke from various trade premises continue to arise. One of the more unusual occurrences concerned a cinema which was burning old celluloid film, which was not acceptable for normal disposal due to the fire risk associated with celluloid.

The remainder of dark smoke emissions concerned maladjustment of equipment controls on industrial plant and emissions from building sites and demolition sites.

Domestic Pollution

In the last report, for 1971, it was recorded that details of the Council's smoke control programme had been submitted to the Department of the Environment for their approval in principle. The approval of the Department of the Environment was received during the year under report, and surveys of the first two areas were completed. The City Council subsequently made the necessary orders in 1973. The first two areas, although covering some 581 acres, have only small pockets of development but substantial development is now planned and progressing.

Among the complaints investigated under the Clean Air Acts, 1956 - 1968, garden bonfires still figure very highly. It has been particularly noticeable that many complaints arise from occupiers of new dwellings which adjoin the gardens of the older type of property, which frequently have much larger gardens than the new property, the fire therefore, being very close to the new house. Letters to the residents usually meet with ready co-operation and some improvement.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Complaints were received during the year regarding four industrial premises and one commercial premises. In three cases, the complaints arose from residents of houses which face modern factories. The proximity of the factories is such that any slight increase in noise, arising from a change in the hours of working or the installation of new equipment such as presses or compressors, gives rise to an immediate adverse reaction from the residents.

Appropriate action was taken to deal with the complaints as they arose.

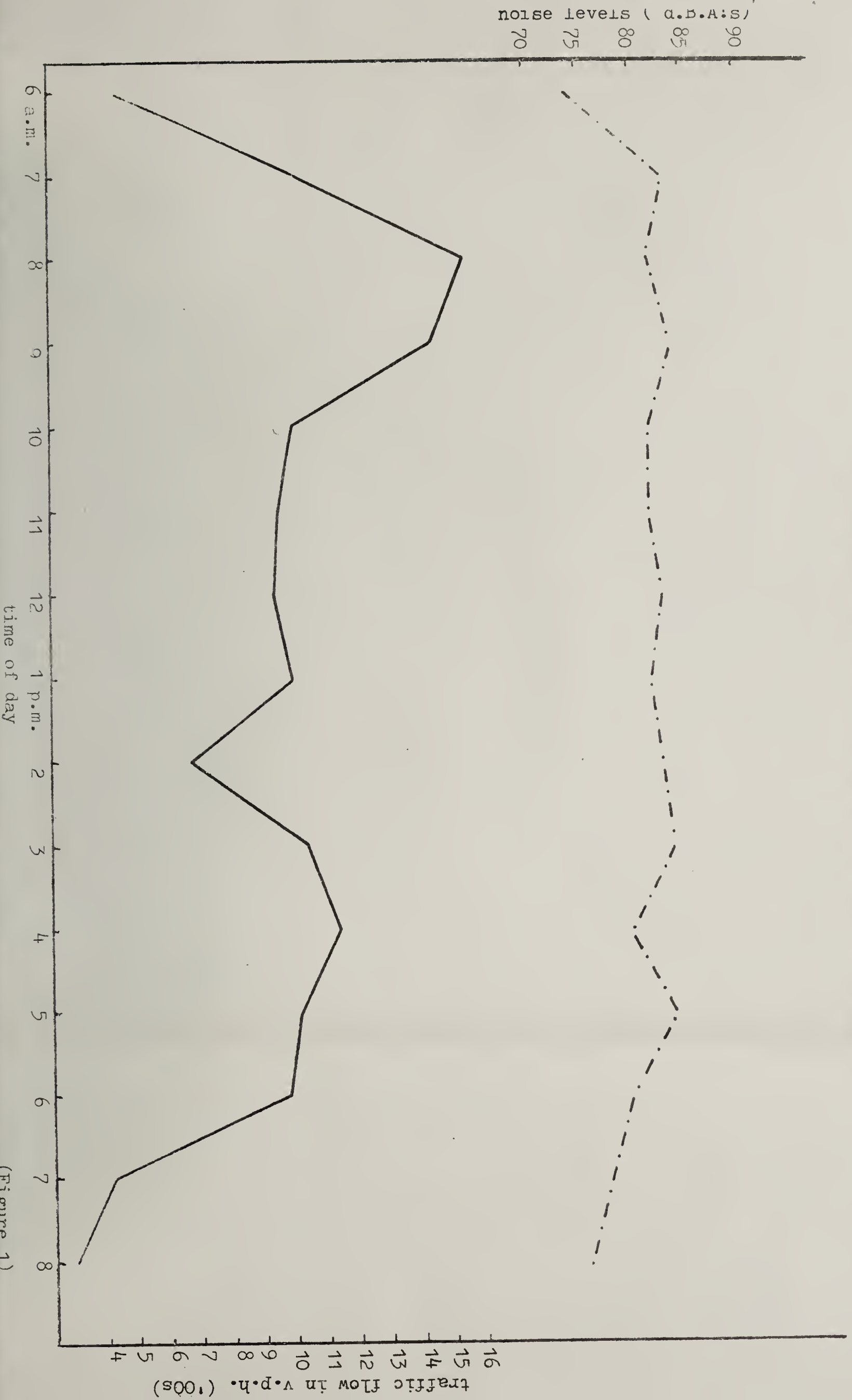
It seems likely that the close proximity of houses to industrial premises, the trend towards greater mechanisation and the increasing public awareness of noise, coupled with a diminishing tolerance by most people of noise, will result in many of the existing developments being a continual and justified source of noise complaints.

Whilst dealing with complaints of noise from a factory, it is not uncommon to discover that fairly extensive extensions are contemplated. In such cases, discussions are entered into and it is usually possible to recommend alternatives in layout and construction, with a view to ensuring minimum noise emissions.

Warning letters were again sent, during the year to a number of firms whose ice-cream vehicle operatives sounded chimes outside the permitted hours of 12 noon to 7.00 p.m. Three members of the public complained of the unreasonable noise from such activities.

An improvement to one long-standing noise problem was effected during the year. This related to the noise from refuse discharging from a refuse chute in a multi-storey block of flats, into the bulk storage bins. With the City Engineer's co-operation, a recommendation to have the outside of the bins lined with a noise-deadening material was carried out, which resulted in a significant reduction in noise nuisance in the bedroom of the flat adjacent to the bin storage room.

EXISTING WEEKDAY 10% NOISE LEVELS / TRAFFIC FLOW



(Figure 1)

Traffic Noise

In last year's Annual Report, details of a traffic-noise survey carried out by this Department, was given. During 1972, the opportunity arose for the Department to assist a local firm of architects, John Tetlow and Partners, in the prediction of the likely effect of traffic noise from the relatively new Eastern By-pass, on projected development in the Southern White area. This By-pass is a dual two-carriageway road, opened in 1971, which is in the proximity of the proposed development and partly runs through a cutting, and is partly elevated above the site, giving markedly different noise climates on various parts of the site.

The investigation comprised two aspects:-

- (i) determination of existing traffic noise levels and vehicle flows,
- and (ii) prediction of future levels.

To measure existing noise levels, the Department's sound pressure level meter was used to ascertain the 18-hour weekday L10 i.e. the level of noise exceeded for 10% of the time during the period 6.00 a.m. to 12 midnight. The average at the time of the readings in 1972, was 80 dBA.

The accompanying chart (figure 1) is reproduced from the Planning Brief for the Southern White Area, prepared by John Tetlow and Partners, the Consultant Architects, and is printed with their permission.

For the purpose of future noise level predictions, a compound increase in traffic flow of 5% per annum for 20 years was assumed. When initially calculated, the procedure was that outlined in the Building Research Station Current Paper "Designing against Noise from Road Traffic". Subsequent to completion of the project, the Department of the Environment published "New Housing, Road and Traffic Noise Design Bulletin No: 26", and some minor adjustments were then made.

The noise predictions were plotted as shown on the accompanying map (figure 2).

The conclusion reached was that traffic noise was not likely to be a serious factor mitigating against development of the proposed site, and it is only in limited areas that special design consideration will be required to conform to the County Planning Authority's standards, in relation to internal and external noise levels.

The standards advocated by the County Planning Authority for the purpose of its structure plan, are:-

INTERNAL NOISE STANDARDS

Noise standards to be achieved in living rooms (excluding working-kitchens) and bedrooms in new residential development should be those recommended by the Wilson Committee, as follows:-

<u>Situation</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Night</u>
Country areas	40 dBA	30 dBA
Suburban areas away from main busy roads	45 dBA	35 dBA
Busy urban areas	50 dBA	35 dBA

EXTERNAL NOISE STANDARDS

Noise levels which shall not be exceeded for more than 10% of the time, in private outdoor spaces of new housing development as follows:-

<u>Situation</u>	<u>Day</u>
Country	50 dBA
Suburban areas, away from busy roads	55 dBA
Busy urban roads	60 dBA

In suburban areas, away from busy roads, a noise level of 60 dBA shall not be exceeded for more than 10% of the time in the public spaces of new development in housing areas. Comparable noise levels in residential development in other types of districts will be decided with regard to the particular circumstances.

The standards are substantially more stringent than those adopted by the Government in the Noise Insulation Regulations 1973. These regulations provide for insulation of domestic premises subjected to noise levels above 68 dBA which are the result of some improvement or alteration to a public highway.

SUPERVISION OF WATER SUPPLIES

Mains water supplies

Nine bacteriological samples were taken during the year, of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company mains supply, and all were reported as satisfactory.

Private water supplies

There are no occupied premises in the City, not on a mains supply.

Swimming Baths - Public

During the year 38 bacteriological water samples were taken. In addition, 40 tests were carried out by Public Health Inspectors, for chlorine and total alkalinity content of water.

As in last year's Annual Report, all bacteriological samples were free from pathogenic bacteria normally tested for in routine laboratory examination. Adjust of chlorine dosage has assured that entirely satisfactory results are now obtained from the pool water.

Private - School Pool

Four bacteriological samples, and a similar number of chlorine tests, etc., were taken from an unheated open air pool, at a private school. High chlorine levels are maintained, and all the samples were entirely satisfactory.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent control work carried out under the Act, during 1972, is summarised as follows:-

Properties other than sewers

1. Number of properties in the district
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification
(b) Number infested by
 (i) Rats
 (ii) Mice
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification
(b) Number infested by
 (i) Rats
 (ii) Mice

	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
	7093	40
	199	-
	115	-
	50	-
	79	-
	-	-
	-	-

Sewers

No evidence of rat infestation was found in sewers, during the year.

Insect Pest Control

This aspect of the service continued operating satisfactorily during the year, and treatment was carried out in respect of the following:-

	1972	1971	1970
Bed bugs	3	Nil	Nil
Fleas	3	2	1
Cockroaches.....	1	2	3
Ants.....	44	15	15
Wasps.....	170	70	72
Flies.....	5	5	2
Silver Fish.....	7	3	-
Other insects.....	15	9	7

Several local businesses have maintained private contracts with specialist firms dealing with pest control, but the general level of incidence of pests, in the City, of public health significance, is still very low.

The following is a summary of the inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors (Lichfield City) during the year 1972.

<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Public Health Act (Nuisances)	103	117
Public Health Act (Dwelling houses)	31	134
Storage of Refuse	45	77
Drain testing	10	16
Choked Drains	83	28
Other drainage work	37	46
Noise abatement	81	69
Petroleum Regulations	127	49
Sampling : Swimming baths	72	55
Sampling : Water	20	16
 <u>HOUSING</u>		
Dwelling houses	142	380
Overcrowding	5	1
P.No. Measurements	1	-
Rent Act. 1957	1	-
Houses in multiple occupation	22	19
Improvement grants	279	193
Qualification certificates	48	40
Caravans	25	-
 <u>FOOD</u>		
Milk distributors	1	1
Ice-cream premises	2	1
Food factories	1	-
Food vehicles	48	25
School kitchens	2	-
Restaurant kitchens	55	30
Licensed premises	70	21
Bakehouses	-	1
Butchers	39	16
Wet and Fried fish shops	14	3
Other food shops	173	49
Unsound food	86	34
Food complaints	102	101
Sampling : Milk	-	1
Sampling : Ice-cream	-	6
Food hygiene swabs	44	11
Factory canteens (food hygiene)	-	2

continued.....

<u>CLEAN AIR ACT</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Smoke control areas	-	39
Other Clean Air Act visits	128	55
Smoke observations	9	5
<u>FACTORIES ACT</u>		
Factories (Power)	24	3
Factories (Non-Power)	1	2
Factories (Building Sites)	2	-
<u>OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT</u>		
OSR General Inspection - Offices	25	4
- Shops	53	10
- Wholesale/ Warehouse	2	-
- Catering	10	10
- Fuel Store	1	-
OSR All other visits	271	90
<u>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</u>		
Infectious diseases enquiries	28	5
Infectious diseases contacts	8	4
Food poisoning	-	3
Visits re specimens	11	8
Disinfection	-	1
<u>INSECTS, PESTS AND RODENTS</u>		
Rates and Mice Control (Trade)	12	14
(Domestic)	16	8
Insect Control	17	27
Pigeon Control	4	1
<u>ANIMALS</u>		
Animal Boarding Establishment Act	1	1
Pet Animals Act	2	1
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>		
Hairdressers and Barbers	5	1
Rag Flock Act	2	2
Court proceedings	5	12
Shops Act	4	2
Hackney Carriages	18	13
Licensing Act	-	24
	-	5
Civic Amenities Act	-	2
Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act	-	2
Miscellaneous	88	97

Particulars relating to enforcement and inspections under the Act, are set out in the prescribed form below:-

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES	Number on Register	INSPECTIONS	Number of written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	80	5	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	85	6	2	-

2. Number of cases in which DEFECTS were found

	Found	Remedied	Referred		Prosecutions instituted
			To H.M. Inspector	By.H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (s.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (s.2) (s.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (s.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (s.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective floor drainage (s.6)	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Conveniences</u> (s.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	-	-
(c) Not separate	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	1	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	5	4	1	-	-

OUTWORKAPPENDIX(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Number of out-workers in August - list required by section 133 (1)(c)	Section 133		Section 134		
		No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel - making, etc.	2	-	-	-	-	-

